

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

## NOTIFICATION OF RECEIPT OF RECORD COPY

(PCT Rule 24.2(a))

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22 -09- 1997

To:

LEARY, James, J.  
Suite 330  
505 W. Olive Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086  
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

12 September 1997 (12.09.97)

ANL  
ZEICHN.

### IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

Applicant's or agent's file reference

MAL9701

International application No.

PCT/US97/11248

The applicant is hereby notified that the International Bureau has received the record copy of the international application as detailed below.

Name(s) of the applicant(s) and State(s) for which they are applicants:

MALCOLM, John, J. et al (all designated States)

International filing date : 28 June 1997 (28.06.97)

Priority date(s) claimed : 28 June 1996 (28.06.96)

Date of receipt of the record copy  
by the International Bureau : 12 September 1997 (12.09.97)

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### ATTENTION

The applicant should carefully check the data appearing in this Notification. In case of any discrepancy between these data and the indications in the international application, the applicant should immediately inform the International Bureau.

In addition, the applicant's attention is drawn to the information contained in the Annex, relating to:

- ☒ time limits for entry into the national phase;
- ☒ confirmation of precautionary designations;
- ☒ requirements regarding priority documents.

A copy of this Notification is being sent to the receiving Office and to the International Searching Authority.

The International Bureau of WIPO  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer:

Eugénia Santos

Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35

Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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## NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

United States Patent and Trademark  
Office  
(Box PCT)  
Crystal Plaza 2  
Washington, DC 20231  
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 13 March 1998 (13.03.98)	
International application No. PCT/US97/11248	Applicant's or agent's file reference MAL9701
International filing date (day/month/year) 28 June 1997 (28.06.97)	Priority date (day/month/year) 28 June 1996 (28.06.96)
Applicant MALCOLM, John, J. et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:27 January 1998 (27.01.98)☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:2. The election ☒ was☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Athina Nickitas-Etienne Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

19

REC'D	27 OCT 1998
WIPO	PCT

Applicant's or agent's file reference MAL9701	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US97/11248	International filing date (day/month/year) 28 JUNE 1997	Priority date (day/month/year) 28 JUNE 1996
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(6): G09E 3/00 and US Cl.: 40/107, 110, 119, 120; 281/33; 283/2		
Applicant MALCOLM, JOHN J.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets. <input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority. (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of <u>1</u> sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 27 JANUARY 1998	Date of completion of this report 21 SEPTEMBER 1998
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231	Authorized officer <i>Cassandra Davis</i> CASSANDRA DAVIS Telephone No. (703) 308-2168
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US97/11248

## I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments)*:

☒ the international application as originally filed.

☒ the description, pages 1-7 , as originally filed.

pages NONE , filed with the demand.

pages NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

pages \_\_\_\_\_ , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

☒ the claims, Nos. 1-38 , as originally filed.

Nos. NONE , as amended under Article 19.

Nos. NONE , filed with the demand.

Nos. NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

Nos. \_\_\_\_\_ , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

☒ the drawings, sheets/~~fig~~ 1-6 , as originally filed.

sheets/~~fig~~ NONE , filed with the demand.

sheets/~~fig~~ NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

sheets/~~fig~~ \_\_\_\_\_ , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☒ the description, pages NONE .

☒ the claims, Nos. NONE .

☒ the drawings, sheets/~~fig~~ NONE .

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the ~~Supplemental Box~~ Additional observations below (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

NONE

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US97/11248

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. STATEMENT**

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>(Please See supplemental sheet)</u>	YES
	Claims <u>(Please See supplemental sheet)</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims <u>(Please See supplemental sheet)</u>	YES
	Claims <u>(Please See supplemental sheet)</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims <u>(Please See supplemental sheet)</u>	YES
	Claims <u>(Please See supplemental sheet)</u>	NO

**2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS**

Claims 1-4, 10-12, 19, 22, 31, 33, and 34 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Palmer, U. S. Patent 553,963.

Palmer teaches a calendar comprising a cover having a front and back panel, a easel support member 7 attached to the back panel, a plurality of calendar pages positioned in a pocket 6 in the front panel, whereby the calendar indicia can be seen through opening 5.

Claims 19 and 20 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Palmer.

With respect to claim 19, since the applicant does not disclose that constructing the cover of injected molded plastic solves any stated problem or is for any particular purpose, it appears that constructing the cover of any suitable material such as taught by Palmer would perform equally well.

With respect to claim 20, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art construct the calendar indicia in any suitable format to convey the desire information.

Claims 5-9, 13-18, 20, 21, 23-30, 32 and 35-38 meet the criteria under PCT Article 33(2)-(4).

The prior art does not teach nor suggest a calendar comprising a cover having front and back panel, a support attached to the back panel at least one page, whereby the front panel is adapted to cover a portion of the page and:

with respect to claim 5, having adhesive shapes attached to the calendar;

with respect to claim 13, wherein the front panel forms a frame which extends about the top edge of the back panel;

with respect to claim 21, the backside of the front panel contains a full-year calendar;

with respect to claim 23, further comprising a photo sleeve in front of the page;

(Continued on Supplemental Sheet.)

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US97/11248

**Supplemental Box**

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Boxes I - VIII

Sheet 10

**V. 1. REASONED STATEMENTS:**

The report as to Novelty was positive (YES) with respect to claims 5-9, 13-18, 20, 21, 23-30, 32, 35-38.

The report as to Novelty was negative (NO) with respect to claims 1-4, 10-12, 19, 22, 31, 33, 34 .

The report as to Inventive Step was positive (YES) with respect to claims 5-9, 13-18, 23-30, 32, 35-38.

The report as to Inventive Step was negative (NO) with respect to claims 1-4, 10-12, 19-22, 31, 33, 34.

The report as to Industrial Applicability was positive (YES) with respect to claims 1-38.

The report as to Industrial Applicability was negative (NO) with respect to claims NONE.

**V. 2. REASONED STATEMENTS - CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS (Continued):**

with respect to claim 32, wherein the front panel is movable between the first position wherein the front panel hides a portion of the page and second position the hidden portion is exposed; and

with respect to claim 35, the page is photo sleeve.

NEW CITATIONS

NONE

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US97/11248**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(6) :G09D 3/00

US CL :40/107, 110, 119, 120; 281/33; 283/2

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 40/107, 110, 119, 120; 281/33; 283/2

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US, 553,963 A (PALMER) 04 FEBRUARY 1896 (04/02/96), SEE FIGURES 1-4	1-4, 10-12, 18-21, 28
A	US 5,426,876 A (JAGOE ET AL) 27 JUNE 1995 (27/06/95) SEE FIGURES 1-6	1-28

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
*E* earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	*Z* document member of the same patent family
*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

30 SEPTEMBER 1997

Date of mailing of the international search report

23 FEB 1998

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US  
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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : <b>A47G</b>		<b>A2</b>	(11) International Publication Number: <b>WO 98/00052</b>
			(43) International Publication Date: 8 January 1998 (08.01.98)
(21) International Application Number: <b>PCT/US97/11248</b>		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date: <b>28 June 1997 (28.06.97)</b>			
(30) Priority Data: <b>08/672,449</b> <b>28 June 1996 (28.06.96)</b> <b>US</b>			
(60) Parent Application or Grant (63) Related by Continuation <b>US</b> <b>08/672,449 (CIP)</b> <b>Filed on</b> <b>28 June 1996 (28.06.96)</b>			
(71)(72) Applicants and Inventors: <b>MALCOLM, John, J.</b> <b>[US/US]; 1704 Carleton Court, Redwood City, CA 94061-2666 (US). SHALVARJIAN, Thomas [US/US]; 2 Bayside Village, No. 422, San Francisco, CA 94107 (US).</b>			
(74) Agents: <b>LEARY, James, J. et al.; Suite 330, 505 W. Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94086 (US).</b>			

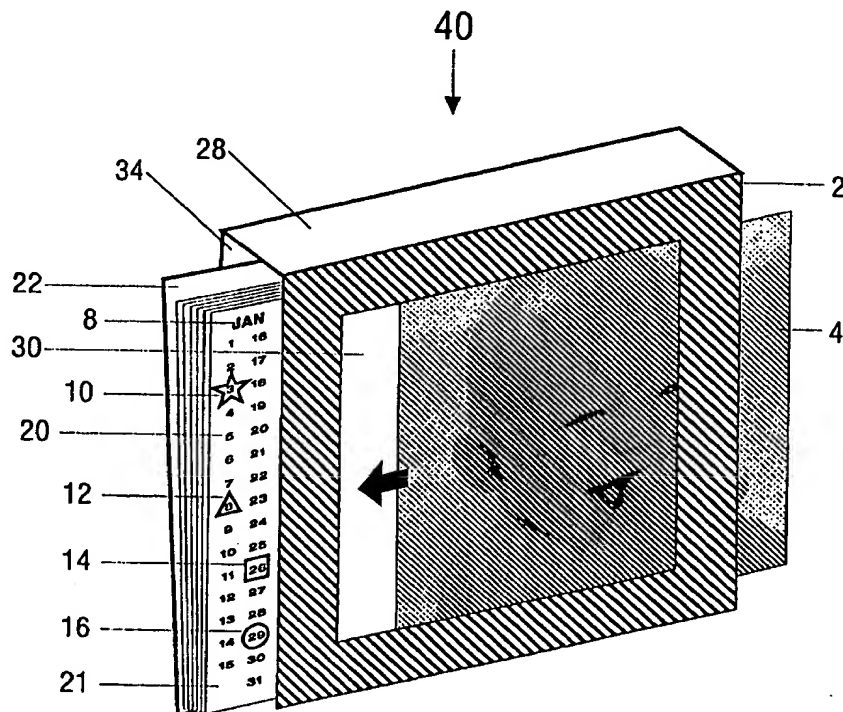
Published

*Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.*

(54) Title: COMBINED EVENT CALENDAR AND PICTURE FRAME

(57) Abstract

A combination desktop calendar and picture frame (40) which allows a user to insert his or her picture or photo (4) of choice into the front cover (2, 30) of the calendar (40). A plurality of calendar pages (21) are held inside the cover. The calendar pages (21) are somewhat wider than the front cover (2, 30) so that a portion of the calendar page (21) is visible to one side of the front cover (2, 30). The visible portion has a compact calendar (20) printed on it which can be highlighted by marking important dates or by placing self stick clear or transparent, tinted shapes (10, 12, 14, 16) over important dates, each shape (10, 12, 14, 16) corresponding to a different type of event such as birthdays, anniversaries or the like. The internal construction of the present invention is such that the calendar pages (21) may be flipped so that the current month or week is at the front most location after opening the front cover (2, 30). An easel (24) or magnetic backing is included for holding the unit in a substantially upright position on a desktop or countertop or attached to a refrigerator, file cabinet, wall, etc. An alternate embodiment includes an annular, refillable calendar section. Another variation is a photograph storage and display device (60) which allows a user to choose which of the photos (4) within a set of photo sleeves (55) is displayed at any one time.





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5

## PATENT APPLICATION OF

10

## COMBINED EVENT CALENDAR AND PICTURE FRAME

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

## 15 1. Field of the Invention

This invention relates in general to calendars and photographic displays. More specifically to a desktop-size calendar with means for easily identifying events or special occasions in combination with an integrated picture frame.

## 20 2. Description of Prior Art

Calendars with spaces available for marking events exist. Additionally, calendars with pictures or photographs attached in some manner also exist. Usually calendars display a new picture with each month. In some cases calendars have been designed so that a person can put their own pictures or photographs in the space above  
25 the calendar page as in patent number 5,426,876 issued on June 27, 1995 to B. and J. Jagoe.

The problem with most calendars that incorporate pictures or photographs is that they usually take up a large amount of space and become impractical to use on a desktop or countertop. Desktop calendars with pictures or photographs exist, but  
30 generally incorporating both together means that the picture or photograph and/or the calendar must be quite small, thereby making them difficult to see and read. A calendar with enough space to write down an event or special occasion such as "Tracy's Birthday" or "Jo's Anniversary" means that the calendar needs to be of sufficient size to accomplish this task which compounds the problem of size with respect to taking up  
35 space on a desktop or countertop. Finally, a calendar with hand writing on it can look messy and is not conducive to a neat desk or counter environment.

The above problems will be solved with the application of the present invention which will be described below.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of this invention to provide a self-supporting desktop calendar with a picture frame integrated into the front of the cover.

5 Another object of the present invention is to provide a desktop calendar which has the days of the month compactly displayed to one side of the picture frame.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a combination desktop calendar and picture frame in which the days of the month can be easily highlighted with see-through color tinted shapes to indicate an event.

10 Another object of the present invention is to provide a combination picture frame and desktop calendar which is constructed in such a way that there is a page for each month of the year which can be flipped back thereby allowing the desired month's page to be the first page viewed after opening up the front of the cover.

15 A further object of the present invention is to provide a combination picture frame and desktop calendar whose back cover includes an integrated easel or other support which allows the device to stand in a substantially upright position.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a combination desktop calendar and picture frame which can be economically injection molded out of plastic or die cut, scored and manufactured from paperboard or other thin material.

20 Yet another object of the present invention is to display the dates of the current month in a compact manner to provide a way to indicate dates on which an event occurs.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a display device that may be used to store and display one or more photographs.

25 A further object of the present invention is to allow the user to display one of a selection of photographs.

In keeping with these objectives, the present invention takes the form of a desktop calendar which includes an integrated photograph/picture frame on the front of its cover, while the days of the particular month are displayed in compact form to one side of the frame. Important dates are highlighted on the compactly displayed  
30 calendar with transparent, color-tinted dots, circles or other shapes or may be marked with a pen or pencil. A further detailed description of an important event or events can be seen by opening up the picture frame and exposing one of the twelve monthly pages which has a writing space corresponding to each day of the month. Extra spaces have been provided for situations in which more than one event occurs on the same day. In  
35 this case an indicator is placed on the date beside the detailed description of the first event. This refers the user to a second writing space where there is a detailed description of the second event. A variation on this would have the user placing two shapes over the date on the compactly displayed calendar of the month.

A similar designed calendar using daily, weekly, quarterly, yearly, etc. pages is also possible. The design of the present invention is such that the current month can be made to be the front-most page of the calendar after opening up the front of the cover.

5 An alternate embodiment of the present invention discloses an opening in the front of the cover which shows a portion of the page located behind the cover. In this case, there are photo sleeves which alternate with the calendar pages so that a user sees a new photo each month.

Another embodiment has a set of photo sleeves attached to an internal panel. The front cover has an opening which displays a portion of the photo in the photo sleeve directly behind the front of the cover. This allows the user to choose which photo is displayed and to quickly and easily change the photo displayed to any of the other photos within one of the sleeves. Other objects and advantages of the invention will no doubt occur to those skilled in the art upon reading and understanding the following detailed description along with the accompanying drawings.

#### 15 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a front perspective view of the combination desktop calendar and picture frame of the present invention with a photograph partially inserted into the frame.

Figure 2 is a side view of the combination desktop calendar and picture frame.

20 Figure 3 is a plan view of the combination desktop calendar and picture frame.

Figure 4 is a partially assembled view of the combination desktop calendar and picture frame.

Figure 5 is a front perspective view of an alternate embodiment of the present invention.

25 Figure 6 is a front perspective view of a photo storage and display embodiment of the present invention.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

30 For clarity and ease of understanding, the same reference numbers are used to refer to similar structures throughout the drawing figures.

Figure 1 shows the combination desktop calendar and picture frame 40 of the present invention. A photograph 4 is shown partially inserted into the picture frame 2, 30. Part of a monthly calendar page 21 protrudes out to expose a compact calendar 20 on a visible portion of the calendar page 21, in this case, for the month of January 8.

35 Dates can be highlighted by marking shapes with a pen or pencil or by the application of transparent tinted shapes 10, 12, 14, 16, or opaque cut-outs which may be included when purchasing the calendar 40. The different shapes or colors can be indicators for different types of dates. Types of dates include events, occasions and any other system of dates. For example a star shape 10 can mean a birthday. A triangular shape 12 can

mean an anniversary and so forth. A user could also choose to mark other types of dates such as work holidays, medical appointments, social obligations, work deadlines, etc. The above ideas are examples only, a user could also develop their own set of guidelines for using the calendar 40 that would suit their own needs.

5 Figure 2 shows a side view of the present invention 40 where the integral easel back 24 is folded out 90 degrees and the tab 25 holds the easel back 24 in place thereby allowing the calendar 40 of the present invention to stand in a substantially upright position. Optionally, the back panel 34 may be magnetic or have a magnetic material attached to it such that the calendar 40 may be magnetically attached to a refrigerator,  
10 file cabinet or other similar surface. Another variation would have a hole or a slot in the back panel 34 so that the calendar 40 could be hung on the wall.

In order to ease the insertion and removal of the picture 4, a portion of the mat 2 or frame back 30 may be debossed, compressed or otherwise formed. This would typically be the area where the mat 2 and frame back 30 were not glued together. This  
15 would leave a slight gap between the mat 2 and the frame back 30. An alternate method of obtaining a similar gap is to use one or more offset members. These offset members would be placed between the mat 2 and the frame back 30 and have the thickness of the desired gap. They could take many different forms, for example, there could be a strip along the top and a strip along the bottom. This configuration would allow the user to  
20 insert a picture 4 from either side. The offset member could also be a single U-shaped member that left only one side open. The embodiment shown in Figure 2 has the mat 2 shaped such that the middle portion of the side is bowed out from the frame back 30. However, in the calendar's 40 simplest form, there would be no treatment to create this gap. It would be up to the user to slip the photograph 4 into whatever space was  
25 between the mat 2 and frame back 30 on the unglued side of the picture frame 2, 30.

In the embodiment of Figure 3, the front section of the picture frame, the mat 2, is the first section of a continuous, scored paperboard strip. Dotted lines 3, 5, 6, 7, 9 are score lines where the paperboard is to be bent. The first line 3 is between the mat 2, forming the front section of the picture frame, and the frame back 30. In a preferred  
30 embodiment, a standard calendar 36 is placed, for example as a tear-off notepad of several years or a label or printing on the frame back 30, which is visible when the picture frame 2, 30 is opened up to view the hidden portion 19 of the calendar page 21. This would allow a user to determine the day of a week or easily view future or past months. The second line 5 marks the division between the frame back 30 and the top  
35 panel 28. The third line 6 marks the division between the top panel 28 and the back panel 34 which has the easel 24, 25, magnetic material, hole or slot. The fourth line 7 is between the back panel 34 and the bottom panel 26. The fifth line 9 marks the division between the bottom panel 26 and the internal panel 22. The example given shows and describes the unit 40 formed from paperboard which is folded to form the cover;

however, the cover, or the frame alone, could also be formed from other materials such as plastic, which could be injection molded, electronic circuit boards, metal, glass, wood, foamboard, leather, cloth, synthetic material, vinyl, paper, ceramic, etc.

The embodiment shown in figures 2 and 3 has an area 51 at the top of the frame mat 2 for an advertisement 52. If a significant area were needed, the mat 2 could be extended above top panel 28 to provide the necessary room. If an opening were made through the full thickness of the mat 2, an additional panel could be added to the top which would fold over and cover the back of the opening. This panel would also provide a place to put a logo or company information. Advertising 52 could also be added by debossing an area 51 of the mat 2 and placing a printed label in this area 51, or silk-screening a logo or company information onto the mat material 2. If preferred, this advertising section could also be placed in other locations, such as on the mat 2 around the sides of the picture 4 opening. These embodiments, having the advertising option, would be especially useful for company gifts, company advertising, etc.

Fig. 4 is a partially assembled view of the present invention 40 showing how the picture frame mat 2 folds up and is adhered to the frame back 30 in such a way that a photograph or other picture 4 can be slid into the side of the resulting frame. If preferred, the two sections of the picture frame 2, 30 can be adhered so that the picture is slid in from the side or the top. This figure also shows how monthly calendar pages 21 are attached to the internal panel 22 of the cover by a spiral, comb, Wire-O™ or similar binding 18 so that the monthly calendar pages 21 can be flipped back into the recess created by the back panel 34, the bottom panel 26, and the internal panel 22. If the calendar page 21 is flipped so that the compact calendar 20 displayed is for the current month, the hidden portion 19 which is visible when the picture frame 2, 30 is lifted is also for the current month. The monthly calendar page 21 has lines or blank areas so that the user can add a reference to an event or special occasion. For example, Tracy's birthday is indicated by a tinted colored star 10 which the user has applied to the compact calendar 20 on January 3rd 11. The words "Tracy's Birthday" 13 are fully written in on the appropriate line of an expanded calendar located on the hidden portion 19 of the monthly calendar page 21. This way a user can glance at the calendar 40 and view the compact calendar 20 on the visible portion of the monthly calendar page 21 to determine if an event or special occasion is coming up and the type of event or special occasion. When the time draws near, the user can lift the picture frame 2, 30 of the calendar 40 to expose the hidden portion 19 of the monthly calendar page 21, thereby determining the specific information on the upcoming event.

In this case there is also a second event, Jo's Anniversary which also occurs on January 3rd. A square 44 has been placed around the date on the hidden portion 19 of the monthly calendar page 21. This square 44 corresponds to a square 50 located at the lower right of the hidden portion 19 of the calendar page 21. On the line corresponding

to the square 50, the text "Jo's Anniversary" 48 has been fully written. If there was a different duplicate date, the user could use the circle or triangle. Alternately, the user could put one or two indicators onto the date on the compact calendar 20 and write two events on the appropriate line.

5       The present embodiment of the invention could be used year after year as a reminder of events. Without the standard calendar 36 there is no indication of the exact year. The user would no longer be required to transfer all the important dates from calendar to calendar as the years pass.

10       A variation of the present invention would use detachable calendar pages which could be replaced each year. This would be desirable for cases where the calendar is used for appointments and/or other events which do not recur on the same date each year or in cases where the calendar pages indicate a year or a day of the week and would therefore be outdated. In these cases, alternate binding techniques might be advantageous. For example, the calendar pages could be perforated at the top and  
15       slipped into the binding rings or glue bound at the top and attached to the internal panel 22. In these cases, when the month was over, the calendar page 21 could be torn off and discarded. For these embodiments, the internal panel 22 and the bottom panel 26 could be eliminated and the calendar pages 21 would be attached to the top of the back panel 34.

20       The examples given have the picture frame as an integral portion of the cover; however, this is not required. A separate picture frame 2, 30 may be used. In this case, the picture frame 2, 30 would then be attached to the top panel 28. A further variation would have a separate mat 2, as shown in figure 4, which would be attached to the frame back 30. The picture frame 2, 30 could be formed (made) of plastic, paperboard,  
25       foamboard, wood, metal, electronic circuit board, glass, paper, ceramic, leather, cloth, synthetic materials, vinyl or a combination of materials.

Another optional addition is a sheet of clear material such as clear vinyl, polycarbonate, glass, acetate, mylar, etc. This would be placed in front of the picture 4 to protect it from dust, debris and whatever else might damage the picture 4.

30       A further variation would be optimal for cases where there are not many calendar pages 21. In this embodiment, the calendar 40 would be thin enough that the top panel 28 could be omitted. In this case the picture frame 2, 30 would be attached directly to the back panel 34. The simplest version of this variation would also omit the internal panel 22 and the bottom panel 26. The unit 40 would merely have the back  
35       panel 34, the front panel (formed of the mat 2 and the frame back 30) and the calendar pages 21 in between. In this case, all the elements 34, 2, 30, 21 would be bound together at the top.

Figure 5 shows an alternate version of the present invention. The mat 2 is attached to the top panel 28. If preferred, the top panel 28 may be omitted and the mat

2 attached directly to the back panel 34. The opening in the mat 2 allows the user to see through the front of the cover to the photo or picture 4 in the photo sleeve 55 behind the mat 2. The calendar pages 21 are interleaved with photo sleeves 55 so that a photo sleeve 55 is in front of each calendar page 21. When a user flips to a new calendar page 21, a new photo 4 is displayed through the opening in the mat 2. The construction of the embodiment shown has the internal panel 22, the bottom panel 26, and the spiral binding 18. However if preferred, these elements 18, 22, 26 could be omitted if an attachment means were provided to attach the photo sleeves 55 to one of the remaining cover components 2, 28, 34. This could be accomplished in a number of ways including having a hook onto which the spiral or other binding 18 could be placed, or a pocket into which the rearwardmost photo sleeve 55 could be placed.

Figure 6 shows a photo storage and display version 60 of the present invention. As in figure 5, the mat 2 is attached directly to the top panel 28. The opening in the mat 2 allows the user to display a portion of whatever is directly behind the mat 2, in this case one of a set of photo sleeves 55. A user may fill each of the photo sleeves 55 with a different photo 4. When the user wishes to change the photo 4 displayed, he or she lifts the mat 2 and flips the photo sleeves 55 to the desired photo 4. This allows the user to quickly and easily change the photo 4 displayed whenever desired without needing to locate and exchange photos as is needed in a traditional photo frame.

Alternately, the embodiment of figure 6 may be modified as a calendar variation. Calendar pages 21 replace the photo sleeves 55 and the picture frame 2, 30 is used in place of the mat 2. As in the figure shown, neither the photo sleeves 55 nor the calendar pages 21 need extend beyond the edge of the picture frame 2, 30 or mat 2.

Although the examples given include many specificities, they are intended as illustrative of a few possible embodiments of the invention. Other embodiments, modifications, and combinations will, no doubt, occur to those skilled in the art. For example, a particular configuration of easel is shown and described. However, other types of easel and stands may be used. Also, the examples given all have the compact calendar displayed to the left side of the picture. However, if preferred, this could be placed in other locations such as to the right or below the picture. Thus, the examples given should only be interpreted as illustrations of some of the preferred embodiments of the invention, and the full scope of the invention should be determined by the appended claims and their legal equivalents.



I claim:

- 1 1. A calendar, comprising:  
2 a cover having a front panel and a back panel,  
3 a support means attached to said back panel for supporting said calendar,  
4 and at least one calendar page, said at least one calendar page attached to said  
5 cover,  
6 said front panel of said cover being positionable to cover at least a portion of said at  
7 least one calendar page.
- 1 2. The calendar of claim 1 wherein said front panel of said cover has a first position and  
2 wherein in said first position, said front panel hides a hidden portion of said at least  
3 one calendar page and leaves visible a visible portion of said at least one calendar page.
- 1 3. The calendar of claim 2 wherein a compact calendar is printed on said visible portion  
2 of said at least one calendar page.
- 1 4. The calendar of claim 3 wherein said at least one calendar page is a plurality of  
2 calendar pages, and wherein a portion of said compact calendar is printed on each of  
3 said plurality of calendar pages, said portion being chosen from the group of portions  
4 consisting of a day, a week, a month, a quarter, a half of a year and a year.
- 1 5. The calendar of claim 3 further comprising adhesive shapes, said adhesive shapes  
2 being adherable to said compact calendar.
- 1 6. The calendar of claim 5 wherein said adhesive shapes have a distinct appearance to  
2 indicate a type of date.
- 1 7. The calendar of claim 6 wherein said distinct appearance is created by varying a  
2 factor of its visual appearance, said factor chosen from the group of factors consisting of  
3 color, shape and opacity.
- 1 8. The calendar of claim 2 wherein said front panel of said cover has a second position,  
2 and wherein when said front panel is in said second position said hidden portion of  
3 said at least one calendar page is exposed.
- 1 9. The calendar of claim 8 wherein a compact calendar is printed on said visible portion  
2 of said at least one calendar page and wherein said hidden portion of said at least one

- 3 calendar page has a date and an area corresponding to each of the dates exhibited on  
4 said compact calendar.
- 1 10. The calendar of claim 1 wherein said front panel of said cover forms a display  
2 means for displaying a flat sheet-like member.
- 1 11. The calendar of claim 10 wherein said front panel is made of at least one material  
2 chosen from the group of materials consisting of paper, paperboard, plastic, electronic  
3 circuit board, metal, glass, wood, foamboard, leather, cloth, synthetic materials,  
4 ceramic, and vinyl.
- 1 12. The calendar of claim 10 wherein said display means is a frame having an opening  
2 and a frame back panel.
- 1 13. The calendar of claim 12 wherein said frame extends above said top edge of said  
2 back panel.
- 1 14. The calendar of claim 1 wherein said back panel has a top and said at least one  
2 calendar page is attached proximate to said top of said back panel.
- 1 15. The calendar of claim 1 wherein said cover has an internal panel having a top, and  
2 wherein said at least one calendar page is attached to said top of said internal panel.
- 1 16. The calendar of claim 15 wherein said front panel has a top edge, said back panel  
2 has a top edge and a bottom edge, and said internal panel has a bottom edge, said  
3 bottom edge of said internal panel being connected to said bottom edge of said back  
4 panel, and said top edge of said back panel being connected proximate to said top edge  
5 of said front panel.
- 1 17. The calendar of claim 16 wherein said internal panel is connected to said back panel  
2 by a bottom panel and said back panel is connected to said front panel by a top panel.
- 1 18. The calendar of claim 15 wherein said front panel of said cover has a first position  
2 and wherein in said first position, said front panel hides a hidden portion of said at  
3 least one calendar page and leaves visible a visible portion of said at least one calendar  
4 page.

1 19. The calendar of claim 1 wherein said cover is made of a material chosen from the  
2 group of materials consisting of paper and paperboard and wherein said cover is  
3 formed from a single folded sheet of material.

1 20. The calendar of claim 1 wherein said cover is formed from injection molded plastic.

1 21. The calendar of claim 1 wherein said front panel further comprises a full-year  
2 calendar located on a backside of said front panel.

1 22. The calendar of claim 1 wherein said support means is chosen from the group  
2 consisting of an easel, magnetic material, a hole and a slot.

1 23. The calendar of claim 1 further comprising at least one photo sleeve, said at least  
2 one photo sleeve being located in front of said at least one calendar page.

1 24. The calendar of claim 23 wherein said at least one photo sleeve is a plurality of photo  
2 sleeves and said at least one calendar page is a plurality of calendar pages, said  
3 plurality of photo sleeves alternating with said plurality of calendar pages.

1 25. A calendar, comprising:

2 a cover having a front panel, a back panel and an internal panel,

3 said front panel of said cover having a top edge and an opening for displaying a  
4 flat sheet-like member,

5 said back panel having a top edge and a bottom edge,

6 said internal panel having a bottom edge,

7 said top edge of said front panel being connected to said top edge of said back  
8 panel,

9 said bottom edge of said back panel being connected to said bottom edge of said  
10 internal panel,

11 a support means attached to said back panel for supporting said calendar,

12 and at least one calendar page attached to said internal panel,

13 wherein said front panel of said cover has a first position, wherein said front panel

14 hides a hidden portion of said at least one calendar page and leaves visible a  
15 visible portion of said at least one calendar page,

16 and wherein said front panel is movable to intermittently allow the user to view  
17 said hidden portion of said at least one calendar page.

1 26. The calendar of claim 25 wherein said cover is formed from a single folded sheet of  
2 material.

- 1 27. The calendar of claim 25 wherein said cover is formed from injection molded -  
2 plastic.
- 1 28. The calendar of claim 25 wherein a compact calendar is printed on said visible  
2 portion of said at least one calendar page.
- 1 29. The calendar of claim 28 further comprising adhesive shapes, said adhesive shapes  
2 being adherable to said compact calendar.
- 1 30. The calendar of claim 29 wherein said adhesive shapes have a distinct appearance  
2 to indicate a type of date and wherein said distinct appearance is created by varying a  
3 factor of its visual appearance, said factor chosen from the group of factors consisting of  
4 color, shape and opacity.
- 1 31. A display device, comprising:  
2 a cover having a front panel and a back panel,  
3 said front panel of said cover forming a display means for displaying a flat sheet-  
4 like member,  
5 a support means attached to said back panel for supporting said display device,  
6 and at least one page, said at least one page attached to said cover,  
7 said front panel of said cover being positionable such that a user sees a visible  
8 portion of said at least one page when said front panel of said cover is situated in  
9 front of said at least one page.
- 1 32. The display device of claim 31 wherein said front panel has a first position and a  
2 second position, wherein in said first position, said front panel hides a hidden portion  
3 of said at least one page and leaves visible a visible portion of said at least one page,  
4 and wherein in said second position said hidden portion of said at least one page is  
5 exposed.
- 1 33. The display device of claim 31 wherein said page is a calendar page.
- 1 34. The display device of claim 33 wherein a compact calendar is printed on said  
2 visible portion of said at least one page.
- 1 35. The display device of claim 31 wherein said page is a photo sleeve configured to  
2 hold a flat sheet-like member.

1 36. The display device of claim 35 wherein said display means is an opening within  
2 said front panel.

1 37. The display device of claim 36 wherein said cover further comprises an internal  
2 panel having a top, and wherein said at least one page is attached to said top of said  
3 internal panel.

1 38. The calendar of claim 37 wherein said internal panel is connected to said back panel  
2 by a bottom panel and said back panel is connected to said front panel by a top panel.

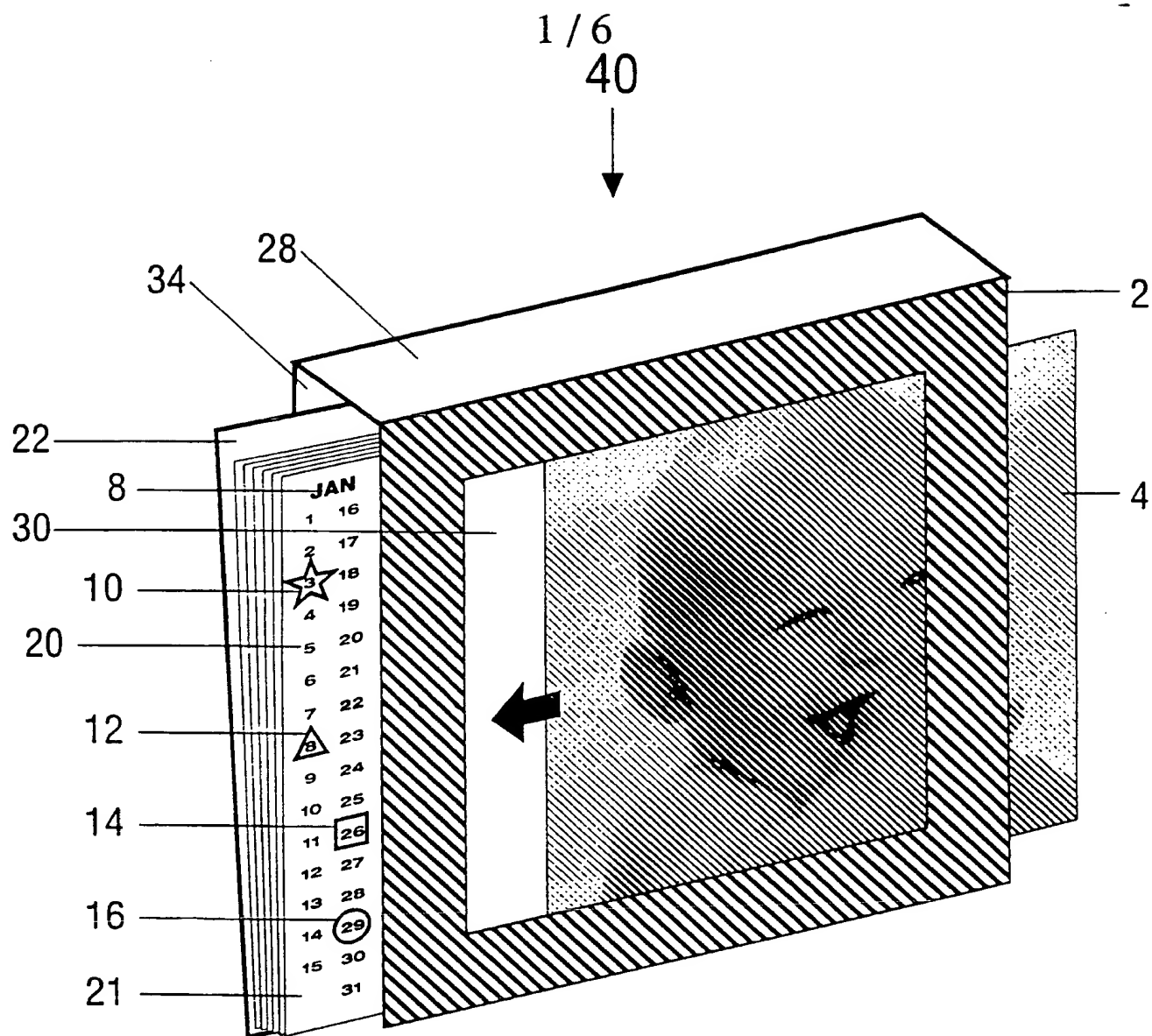


Figure 1

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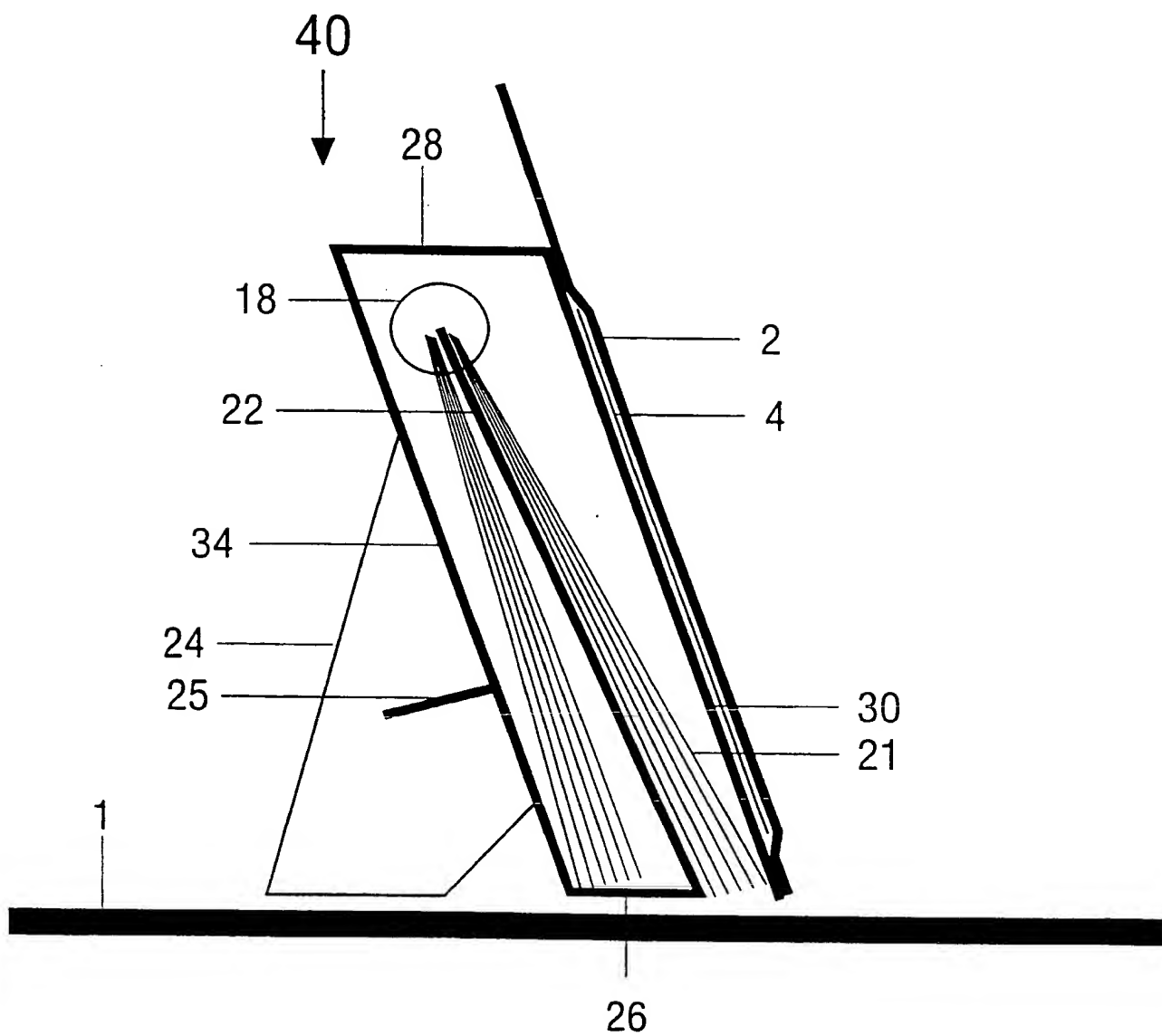


Figure 2

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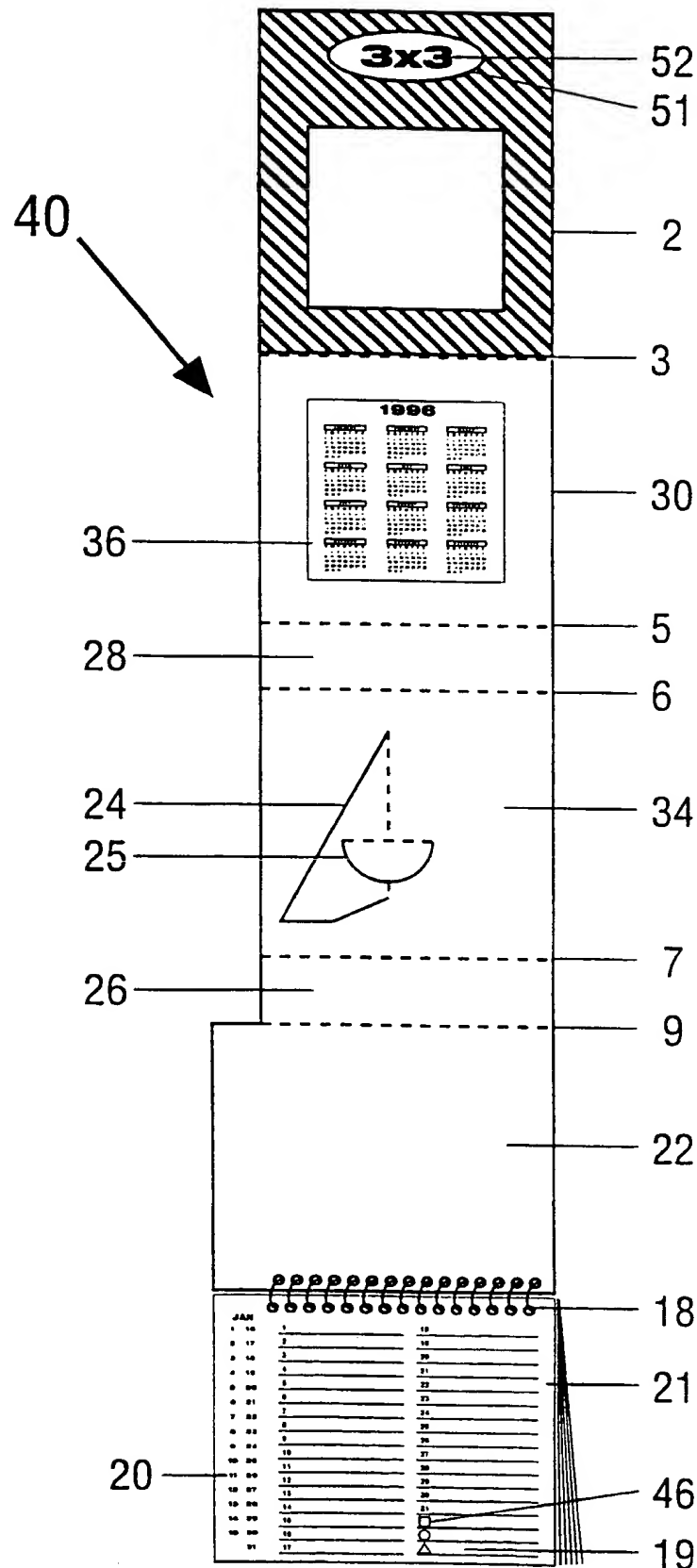


Figure 3



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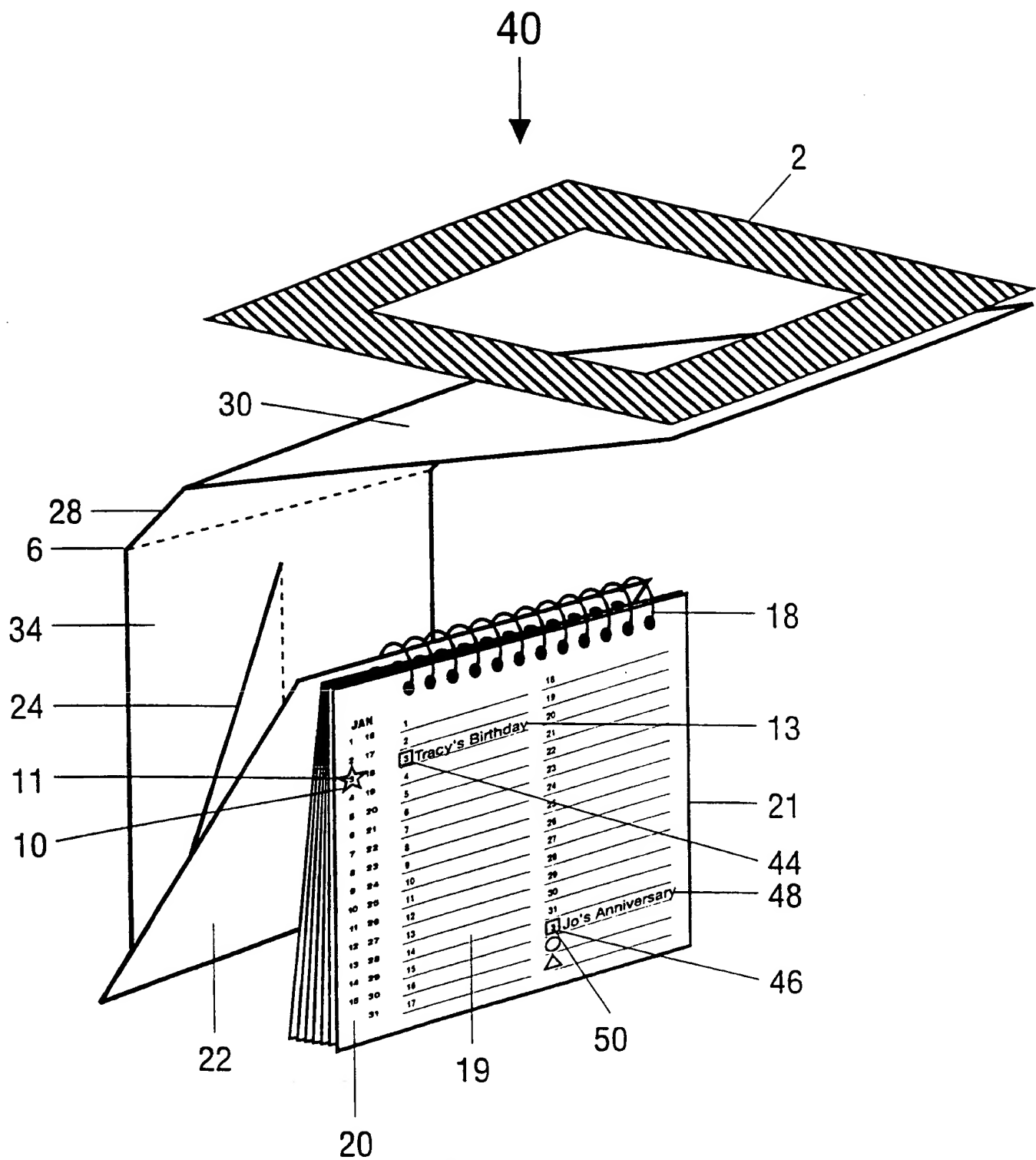


Figure 4

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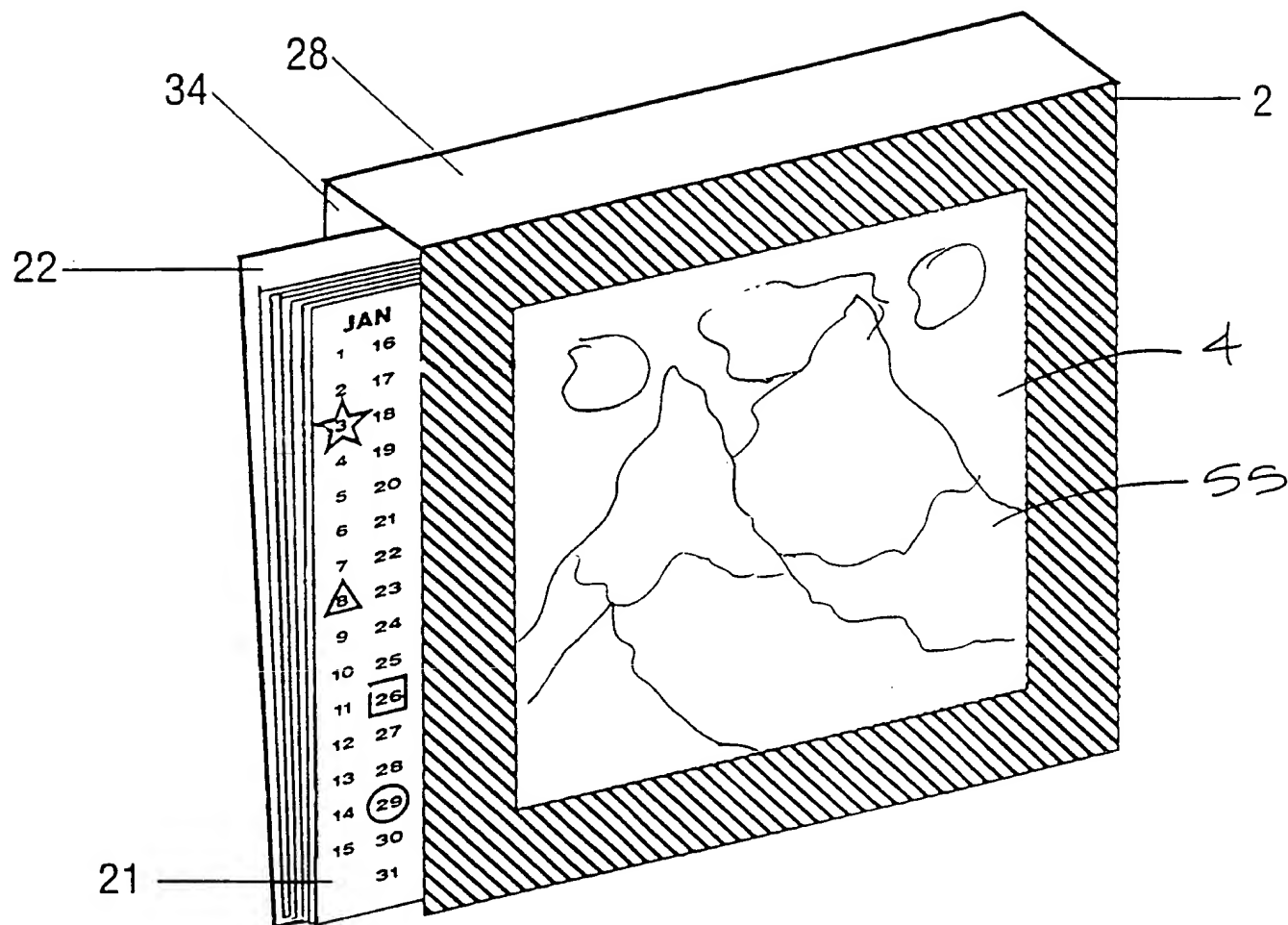
40  
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Figure 5

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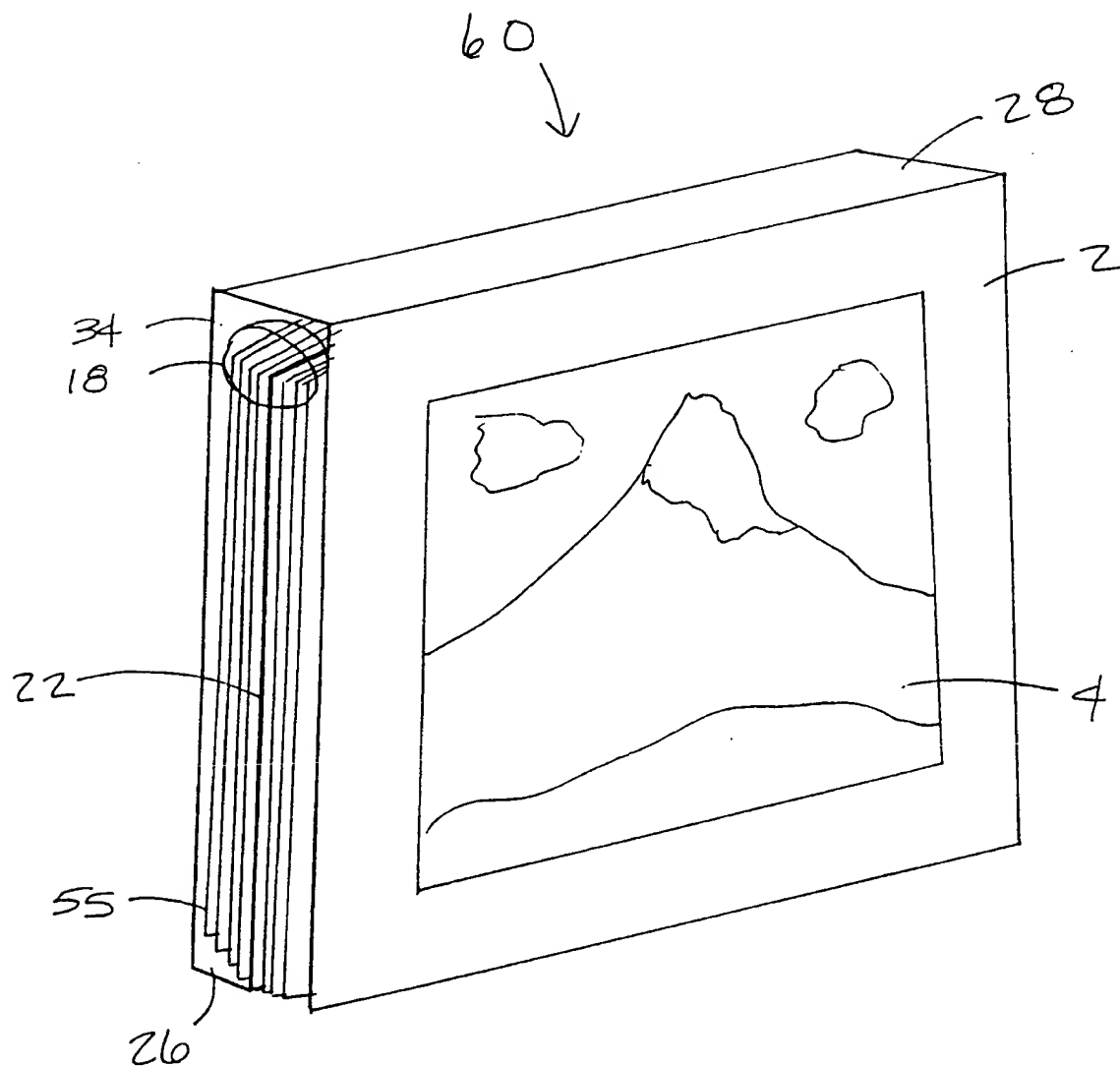


FIG 6